

REMARKS

The Advisory Action dated 2 October 2003, has been reviewed, and the comments of the U.S. Patent Office have been considered. In particular, the above amendments are to the claims pending at the time the final Office Action was issued 28 March 2003, and include the amendments proposed, but not entered, by the Amendment and Request for Reconsideration under 35 U.S.C. § 1.116, which was filed 30 June 2003. Claims 20 and 216 remain cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 1, 2 and 14 are currently amended, claims 5 and 6 were previously presented, and claims 3, 4, 7-13 and 15-19 remain as originally filed. Thus, claims 1-19 are respectfully submitted for reconsideration by the Examiner.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claim 5-13 and 19 are allowed.

Claims 1-4 and 14-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,007,844 to *Mason et al* ("Mason"). Insofar as the rejection is applicable to amended independent claims 1, 2 and 14, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection as *Mason* fails to teach or suggest the claimed invention as a whole.

Independent claims 1, 2 and 14 recite combinations of features that each include, *inter alia*, "a housing having a generally planar surface" and "an electric terminal contiguous to the generally planar surface and extending over a portion of the generally planar surface." Support for these combinations of features is provided by the originally filed application at, for example, paragraphs 0021 and 0022, and Figure 1 as originally filed.

In contrast, *Mason* fails to show a generally planar surface having an electrical terminal contiguous thereto and extending over a portion of the generally planar surface. Accordingly, independent claims 1, 2 and 14 are patentable because *Mason* fails to teach or suggest features of the claimed invention as a whole, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 3 and 4, and claims 15-18, ultimately depend from allowable claims 2 and 14, respectively, and are also respectfully submitted to be allowable for at least the same reasons, as well as for the additionally recited features that further distinguish over the applied prior art. Thus, allowance of these dependent claims is also respectfully requested.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

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